REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and

following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 5-8, 13, 16-18 and 20-21 are pending in this application, of which Claims 5-

8, 16-18 and 20 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 2, 12-13, 16, 18 and 20 are

amended, and Claims 3-4, 10-11, 14-15, 19 and 22-50 are canceled without prejudice or

disclaimer. Support for the changes to the claims is found in the originally filed disclosure,

including the specification at least from page 61, line 37 to page 63, line 23 and in the

drawings at least in Figs. 5-7. No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 2, 13 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§ 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. 2005/0168437 (Carl) in view of U.S. 6,590,573

(Geshwind).

Claim 2 recites:

> A three-dimensional pointing method, comprising:
> pointing at a desired point in a virtual three-dimensional space
> represented on a display apparatus based on two-dimensional coordinates on a
> predetermined detection plane of the display apparatus of a position that is
> pointed at by a pen tip of an input pen in a real three-dimensional space, pen
> pressure that is pressure applied to the pen tip of the input pen, an inclination
> angle that is an angle between an axis of the input pen and the detection plane
> in the real three-dimensional space, and a direction angle that is an angle
> between a projection of the axis of the input pen onto the detection plane and
> a predetermined line on the detection plane;
> generating an extension of the axis of the input pen in the virtual three-
> dimensional space based on the inclination angle and the direction angle of the
> input pen in the real three-dimensional space;
> ***displaying a three-dimensional pointer on the display apparatus on
> the extension of the axis of the input pen in the virtual three-dimensional
> space***; and
> changing a coordinate of the three-dimensional pointer in the direction
> of the extension in the virtual three-dimensional space according to the pen
> pressure of the input pen, and displaying the three-dimensional pointer on the
> display apparatus based on the changed coordinate.
> [Emphasis added].

Claim 2 requires a pen in a real three-dimensional space to point at a desired point in a virtual three-dimensional space represented on a display apparatus. Based on the arrangement of the pen, an extension of an axis of the pen is generated in the virtual three-dimensional space and a three-dimensional pointer is displayed on the display apparatus on the extension. Further, a coordinate of the three-dimensional pointer is changed according to a pressure applied to the pen and the three-dimensional pointer is displayed based on the changed coordinate. It is respectfully submitted the cited references fail to disclose or reasonably suggest these features.

In particular, Carl merely describes determining a pose of an implement.[1] Carl is silent regarding generating an extension of an axis the implement into a virtual three-dimensional space as required by Claim 1. Further, contrary to the Office Action's allegation Carl describes a display apparatus, Fig. 5 of Carl merely describes a scanning device to optically measure the pose of the implement.[2] Carl does not describe the claimed aspects of a display apparatus and a virtual three-dimensional space. Further, Carl is silent regarding generating an extension of an axis of the implement, as required by Claim 2.

Geshwind fails to remedy the above-noted deficiencies of Carl. Geshwind merely describes a mouse with a second ball which enables input on a third axis, for example, to point a screen cursor in a particular direction, and not just position the cursor on an X-Y plane or as a rotational input.[3] Geshwind also describes controlling the angle or tilt of a *virtual* "pen" by twisting the mouse.[4] However, Geshwind is silent regarding generating an extension of the axis of an input pen in a virtual three-dimensional space, as required by Claim 2, based on an inclination angle and a direction angle of an input pen in real space.

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[1] Carl, Abstract, Claim 1.
[2] Carl, Fig. 5 and paragraph [0023] and [0063].
[3] Geshwind, column 23, lines 16-30.
[4] Geshwind, column 25, lines 1-8.

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Therefore, it is respectfully submitted Claim 2 (and any depending claim) is allowable over the cited references.

Claim 13, although varying in scope and directed to a different statutory class, recites features which are also not described by the cited references for substantially the same reasons as noted above regarding Claim 2. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted Claim 13 (and any depending claim) is also allowable over the cited references.
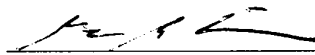
Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above comments, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the examiner disagree, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to resolve any remaining issues. Otherwise, an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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